

therefore no undue burden on the Examiner to search for all four groups simultaneously.

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that at least the claims of Groups I and IV should be recombined, as it clearly will be necessary to perform a thorough search of the Group IV gene targeting vector whichever of these two groups were elected (since the gene targeting vector is so similar to the RKO clone). In other words, in order to perform a thorough search of the claims of elected Group I, the Examiner will have already performed a thorough search of the claims of Group IV. As such, no duplication of effort will be required.

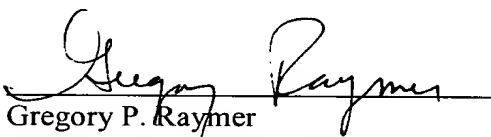
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-1445.

A Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

Date:

5/9/03

Respectfully submitted,



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